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Worldwide Report

NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT AND PROLIFERATION

No. 208



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HAWKE'S POSITION ON URANIUM SPARKS CONTROVERSY

Nod to Mining Contracts

Melbourne THE AGE In English 3 Sep 83 pp 1, 5

[Article by Michelle Grattan]

[Text]

CANBERRA. — The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, appears to have pre-empted Cabinet's review of uranium policy by indicating that two companies with existing uranium mines should be allowed to continue negotiating for new contracts.

Mr Hawke said in an interview with 'Business Review Weekly' that Queensland Mines "should be able to get the contracts necessary to dispose of the production" from its Nabarlek mine. He also said that Energy Resources of Australia's Ranger mine fell "quite clearly" under Labor's policy allowing existing mines to go ahead. He did not disagree when the interviewer said this meant it could have new contracts.

Federal Cabinet this month is due to review the Government's uranium policy. One question being looked at is the decision by the Trade Minister, Mr Bowen, to grant ERA and Queensland Mines negotiating licences to seek new contracts.

The Bowen decision caused a furore in Caucus when it was revealed. The Left tried unsuccessfully in Caucus to force the Government to withdraw these licences. However, Caucus voted to wait until Cabinet had reviewed policy.

A Victorian Left-wing MHR, Mr Peter Milton, last night criticised the Prime Minister for his comments. Mr Milton, who moved the successful caucus motion to withdraw the negotiating licences, said Mr Hawke should not be mak-

ing statements until the cabinet review went to caucus for a full scale debate.

Mr Milton said it was "quite inappropriate" for Mr Hawke to be making statements.

He said that Labor policy on uranium was contradictory and ambiguous.

Mr Hawke said the review was looking at "the arrangements for mining and the safeguards that are associated with the drawing up of contracts and the whole international context within which that is happening".

He said Cabinet would have done its review by the end of September. There would be a full opportunity for the parliamentary party and the organisation to discuss and analyse that position.

"But that is being done within the framework of a policy which is quite clear in regard to existing mines," he said.

Submissions are coming from the Resources Minister, Senator Walsh, on the future of the industry, and the Foreign Minister, Mr Hayden, on safeguards.

Mr Hawke also said that the Roxby Downs mine — the "daddy of them all" — was allowed under ALP policy.

Mr Milton said he was not convinced that the uranium had to be sold from Roxby to make it economically viable because it was so rich in copper. The uranium could be put back into the ground, Mr Milton said.

ERA has most of its production under contract until the 1990s.

Opposition From ALP Left

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 5 Sep 83 p 1

[Article by Marsali MacKinnon]

[Text]

THE Labor Caucus is likely to back the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, in his interpretation of the Labor Party's uranium policy if Cabinet produces a sufficiently stringent package of safeguards over its mining and export, senior Caucus members said yesterday.

"We'll probably come to terms with reality on uranium," Mr David Beddall, the secretary of the Caucus industry committee, said.

But other left-wing Caucus members signalled that any attempts to water down ALP policy on uranium would provoke a major fight within the party.

The Labor Party's policy – arrived at last year after fiery debate between the left-wing and moderate factions, headed by Mr Hawke – bans new uranium mines except the Roxby Downs mine in South Australia and any other existing mine where uranium can be dug with another mineral.

Labor policy, which is riddled with ambiguities, also commits the Government to phasing out the uranium industry, but over an indefinite period.

Mr Hawke said at the weekend that Roxby should go ahead, and two other existing mines – Nabarlek and Ranger in the Northern Territory – should be allowed to negotiate for new export contracts.

But left-wing hardliners in the ALP are opposed to any uranium leaving Australian shores.

Cabinet must make a decision on a major review of the implementation of Labor's uranium policy this month, after which it will report back to Caucus.

Mr Beddall said that if the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, presented Cabinet with a comprehensive package of safeguards on uranium which it could take to Caucus, "that could convince many people who are at present opposed to the export of uranium".

The chairman of the Caucus foreign affairs and defence committee, Mr Ralph Jacobi,

said the Government had to take "a more responsible and realistic approach" to the question of uranium exports.

"If we can introduce sufficiently stringent safeguards regulating the processing, storage and export of uranium, the Government should go ahead," he said.

Mr Jacobi, who described himself as "a realist" on uranium, said the Caucus debate on uranium would be "divisive", but it was time for commonsense to prevail over "the ideologies and dogmatism that have dominated the debate".

Backlash

Only three months ago there was another angry debate in Caucus over uranium, provoked by moves by the Minister for Trade, Mr Bowen, to allow Queensland Mines and Energy Resources of Australia – the companies which operate Nabarlek and Ranger – permission to negotiate for new contracts.

Mr Hawke defused the debate by referring the issue of uranium to Cabinet for review.

But left-wing Caucus members, including Senator Ruth Coleman and Senator Gordon McIntosh (Western Australia), warned that any attempt to soften the interpretation of the uranium policy would provoke a backlash from party branches.

Senator Coleman said yesterday: "So many people at branch level are angry about the present policy that any attempt to weaken it further will mean that the party will move at next year's federal conference to ban the export of uranium altogether."

The anti-nuclear protest at Roxby Downs virtually drew to a close yesterday with no further arrests, but there are fears for the remaining protesters' safety.

According to local mining groups, if police and the media withdraw from the area immediately, straggling protesters returning south could be attacked by outraged locals.

Problems for Foreign Buyers

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 6 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Marsali MacKinnon]

[Text] COUNTRIES with uranium export contracts with Australia might refuse to accept more stringent safeguards, foreign affairs officials fear.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, is examining ways of toughening the already strong safeguards Australia imposes on uranium sales, in a bid to appease the anti-uranium lobby in the Labor Party.

He is expected to present this package of proposals to Cabinet this month.

However, foreign affairs sources said yesterday: "It will be difficult to come up with a tougher set of safeguards than we already have.

"The safeguards are already among the strictest in the world.

"Even if we did attempt to impose tougher safeguards, other countries — like France, Japan and the US — might not accept them."

The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, signalled on the weekend that he is moving to alter the implementation of Labor's policy on uranium, now under Cabinet review.

He said the South Australian uranium mine at Roxby Downs should be allowed to begin production, and that other projects at Ranger and Nabarlek in the Northern Territory should be allowed to negotiate export contracts.

The question will be considered again by Labor Caucus at the end of this month, in what is expected to be a bitter and divisive debate between the vocal anti-uranium sections of

the party and the pragmatists, headed by the Prime Minister.

Mr Hawke is believed to have the support to win the contest.

He was criticised yesterday by the Victorian Labor backbencher, Mr Peter Milton, for pre-empting the Caucus debate by making his attitude clear on the weekend.

By taking this stand, Mr Hawke had placed some MPs — including some ministers — in the position where they could be branded "rebels" if they defied him, Mr Milton said.

He told the ABC radio current affairs program AM: "The problem is, by indicating his own position in advance, he does make it very difficult for the debate within Caucus when a final decision is made.

"People will be inhibited from expressing certain views because this will be seen as withdrawing support from him and perhaps losing electoral support in the community at large.

"Some backbenchers and even ministers could be seen as rebels. The Prime Minister has a reputation for getting his own way. I have to admit that when the Prime Minister comes down one way or another on an issue it's a very powerful force of persuasion.

"In my own case, all I've done is to refer to the policy of the party. In the case of our uranium policy it states very clearly that we are going to phase out uranium mining.

"How can we phase out uranium mining when we are prepared to go ahead and mine uranium in huge quantities at Roxby Downs?"

He said Mr Hawke's persuasive power "would not make him back down.

"The policy of the party is more important than any individual member of that party, even when it's the Prime Minister," he said.

Foreign affairs sources said: "It has taken a lot of blood, sweat and tears in the past six or seven years to draw up the safeguards we already have and get other countries to agree to them."

Australia has uranium export contracts with countries and groups including France, Japan, Britain, the US, the European Economic Community, Finland, South Korea and the Philippines.

If the Roxby Downs uranium mine comes on stream, it could make Australia one of the world's largest exporters of uranium.

The foreign affairs sources said there were not many countries in the world with whom Australia could draw up fresh contracts with new safeguards.

As well as the proposals being prepared by Mr Hayden, Cabinet — and finally, Caucus — will consider reports from an interdepartmental committee on uranium, and from the Minister for Resources and Energy, Mr Walsh, and the Attorney-General, Senator Evans.

The Australian Democrats called on the Government to strengthen, "not weaken" its anti-nuclear policies.

Senator Macklin said his party would "keep the pressure on until they take positive action to cease all mining and export of uranium".

ACTU Warning

Melbourne THE AGE in English 6 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Paul Robinson]

[Text]

The president of the ACTU, Mr Cliff Dolan, yesterday warned the Federal Government against softening the ALP's policy on uranium.

Mr Dolan said he was concerned at moves in Canberra to "fiddle around with the policy" on the banning of future contracts and the phasing out of existing uranium mines.

He said the ACTU would mount a lobbying campaign among ALP Federal Caucus members if it became clear that the Government was preparing to weaken uranium policy. "The ALP might just as well give it away if it keeps on whittling away at the present policy," he said.

Mr Dolan said the question of uranium was not a formal issue to be discussed at the ACTU's biennial congress to be held next week. But he said the blockade by conservationists and anti-uranium lobbyists at the Roxby Downs uranium and copper mine in South Australia could cause the issue to be raised at the congress "as a special item".

Mr Dolan said he fully supported the blockade and actions taken by demonstrators at Roxby to express their disapproval at further uranium mining. "I think they (the protesters) did a fine job," he said.

Whether or not the ACTU decides to lobby Federal Caucus against softening its policy depends on the outcome of a review of uranium policy implementation being conducted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, and the Minister for Resources and Energy, Mr Walsh.

That review is expected to go to Cabinet in about two weeks, but statements last week by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, indicate that a softer line could be imminent.

Mr Hawke told 'Business Review Weekly' that he believed that the Nabarlek mine in Queensland and the Ranger mine in the Northern Territory should be able to get contracts to dispose of the uranium deposits.

Earlier this year, the Minister for Trade and Resources, Mr Bowen, came under intense criticism from within the ALP for giving permission to the two mines to seek further contracts without the permission of Cabinet.

Ironically, it was Mr Bowen's words that led to the review of uranium policy.

Present uranium policy places a ban on the development of new mines and the phasing out of existing mines. But the policy allows the mining of uranium where it is incidental to the mining of another resource.

Observers in Canberra believe opinion in Federal Caucus is leaning towards a softer uranium policy. But the attitude of the trade union movement remains unclear.

If the issue comes up at the ACTU congress next week, the resulting message could make the course the Federal Government decides to take all the more difficult to explain to its traditional supporters.

Hawke's Reassurances

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Sep 83 p 4

[Text]

THE Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, yesterday delivered a thinly veiled rebuke to the president of the ACTU, Mr Dolan, for accusing the Government of "fiddling around" with uranium policy.

Mr Dolan will speak for the trade union movement and express his opinion. He will not be expressing the opinions, views or decisions of the Australian Government." Mr Hawke told Parliament.

On Tuesday, Mr Dolan warned the Government against softening ALP policy on ura-

gium, saying he was concerned at moves in Canberra to "fiddle around with the policy" on banning future contracts and phasing-out of uranium mining.

The Prime Minister, who last weekend supported uranium mining at Roxby Downs and the right of the Ranger and Nabarlek mines in the Northern Territory to negotiate for mining contracts, told Parliament uranium policy was a " vexed question" for the Government.

He faces opposition to his interpretation of the uranium policy from a vocal anti-uranium group of MPs.

Speaking during Question Time, Mr Hawke said Cabinet was in the middle of a major review of the implementation of uranium policy.

The platform of the ALP clearly recognised that the Government was committed to phasing out the existing uranium industry, Mr Hawke said.

But Labor policy permitted uranium to be mined "in concert with other minerals."

where this was in the national interest.

The Roxby mine in South Australia was one such mine.

It was "one of the world's most under-developed mineral resources" and was of particular significance to the South Australian economy.

The Government's review took in all policy aspects, including that of safeguards on uranium mining and export.

Cabinet's report on the policy would be considered by the parliamentary Labor Party, and "an announcement will be made accordingly", Mr Hawke said.

Such an announcement is expected early next month.

Mr Hawke said the Government had earlier this year suspended shipments of uranium to France.

"This does not involve infringement of the contract (with France) because there is no requirement for shipping (of uranium) until October 1984," he said.

Discussions would continue with French Government authorities until that time.

Victorian Warning, Policy Options

Melbourne THE AGE in English 12 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Peter Stephens and Michelle Grattan]

[Text]

The Victorian branch of the ALP has raised the stakes in this month's Federal Cabinet debate on uranium by strongly warning to the Government not to water down policy.

The administrative committee has adopted a resolution saying that the branch is deeply disturbed at recent public suggestions that the Government should approve new contracts for mines at Nabarlek and Ranger, and allow the new Roxby Downs mines to go ahead.

"The Victorian branch believes that such actions would seriously violate the spirit and letter of ALP policy and provoke widespread dismay and hostility within the party and the community at large," said the resolution, passed on Friday night.

Federal Government sources expect Cabinet to consider the Government's uranium policy in about a fortnight.

The central issue is whether the Government should allow to stand two licences that the Trade Minis-

ter, Mr Bowen, issued to Queensland Mines and Energy Resources of Australia to seek new contracts for Nabarlek and Ranger uranium.

The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, has indicated he believes that the unclear and contradictory party policy allows existing mines to negotiate new contracts. The Left disputes this and will fight in Caucus to have the licences revoked.

A submission from the Minister for Resources and Energy, Senator Walsh, has narrowed from five to two the options presented by the interdepartmental review of the uranium industry's future. These are:

- To hold production from Nabarlek and Queensland mines at present levels.

- To allow these mines to seek new contracts.

Despite the strong Victorian ALP stand, the ACTU president, Mr Dolan, said he thought it unlikely that uranium would be an issue with this week's ACTU congress in Melbourne.

At one stage, some members of the Federal Government believed the ACTU congress might soften its hard-line uranium policy, which would strengthen Mr Hawke's hand in Caucus.

It is believed that a majority of Cabinet would favor allowing the negotiating licences to stand. Cabinet will also examine a submission on safeguards from the Foreign Minister, Mr Hayden. It is expected to decide to strengthen existing safeguards.

Mr Hawke is committed to extensive consultation within the party over the uranium policy. Caucus will make the ultimate decision. The consultations are expected to include the party organisation's industry committee.

Talks are under way to decide at which stage Cabinet should consult with the relevant party committees. Mr Hawke is being advised not to rush the issue.

The Left believes that the uranium vote in Caucus will be tight. Hawke supporters are confident of having the numbers.

The Victorian administrative committee on Friday also decided

to call a meeting of Victorian members of Federal Parliament to discuss the uranium policy.

The Victorian resolution said:

"We remind the Federal Government of resolutions carried unanimously by the Victorian State Conference in recent years calling on an ALP Government to (A) prevent the signing of any new uranium contracts, (B) prohibit the mining and export of uranium from the Roxby Downs deposit, (C) cancel all further shipments of uranium to France, (D) announce a timetable for the rapid phasing out of the two existing mines at Ranger and Nabarlek."

The resolution sought a commitment from the Government that no decision would be made on the future of the uranium industry until reports of Government-initiated inquiries had been made public and debated fully.

Uranium has long been an emotive issue in the Labor Party. The Left-wing has firmly opposed mining and export.

The Victorian branch, which is dominated by the Left, has seen the softer line on uranium from Mr Hawke as a "sellout" and as ignoring party policy.

Code: A1000/1503

ROXBURY DOWNS URANIUM MINE SCENE OF ANTI-NUCLEAR PROTEST

Break-in at Anti-Nuclear Office

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Aug 83 p 3

[Text]

THE Adelaide offices of anti-nuclear campaigners have been burgled on the eve of a large-scale blockade of the Roxby Downs uranium-copper-rare metals mine in South Australia.

Thieves removed a large quantity of protest material early yesterday from the first-floor office of the Campaign Against Nuclear Energy which is organising an extended blockade of the mine scheduled to begin tomorrow.

The robbery, allegedly politically motivated, came as protesters from across the country began converging on Port Augusta in readiness for an attempt to halt work at the \$1600 million Roxby Downs development.

Organisers expect between 600 and 1000 people to attend the mine blockade in desert country 80km north-west of Adelaide. Preparations are well advanced for a police contingent expected to number at least 200 that will oversee the 10-day protest.

A spokesman for CANE, Ms Anne-Marie Delahunt, said six cardboard boxes containing printed material, banners and equipment for use in the blockade had been removed.

The most important loss was CANE's log book including contacts and contingency plans for the protest. About \$500 kept in the office was left untouched by the thieves.

Initial Protest Action

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 29 Aug 83 p 13

[Text]

ADELAIDE - About 300 anti-nuclear protesters yesterday staged a symbolic blockade outside the mine shaft at Roxby Downs, in central South Australia.

It was the first co-ordinated action of a planned nine-day protest.

Protesters were flanked by about 40 police along the 7 km march which passed without incident.

Blockaders allowed mining

company cars to pass and were content to place banners along the fence surrounding the shaft installation.

A spokesman, Ms Anne Marie Delahunt, said the march was to familiarise protesters with the mine area.

Mine workers were to return to work at midnight and the blockade could start in earnest this morning.

A meeting during yesterday's march decided against precipitat-

ing mass arrests during the preliminary action.

The Coalition for a Nuclear-free Australia, the organisation leading the blockade has said it plans to stop work at the mine site.

Police said they were pleased there were no incidents during the march and hoped this would continue.

About 50 protesters left the camp after yesterday's march to return to Adelaide.

Report on Demonstration

Melbourne THE AGE in English 30 Aug 83 pp 1, 4

[Article by John Lahey]

[Excerpt] ANDAMOOKA.--Anti-nuclear demonstrators stormed into the Olympic Dam site yesterday like an invading army smashing down the defences of a fort.

Their determination was frightening. At times it bordered on hysteria. Chanting, singing, clapping, shouting, goading the police and frequently tangling with them, the demonstrators got past several barricades on the two main roads that lead to the site.

Last evening they were entrenched there. They were also reported to be occupying one of the site's two gates. People wanting to enter the site or go out had to show their special passes--the same passes they have shown earlier in the day to the management's security.

The casualties of the day--two policemen hit by cars and treated for bruises, and one demonstrator treated for a foot injury--do not indicate the degree of frenzy and harassment of police that lasted for an hour and a half.

Nor does the number of arrests: four men and a woman charged with offences that ranged from assaulting police to unlawfully interfering with a vehicle.

The background to this particular confrontation is that on Sunday night the demonstrators issued an ultimatum to the South Australian Premier, Mr Bannon, asking him to clear up questions about the nature of the lease at Olympic Dam, which is part of the Roxby Downs pastoral station.

Their demands boil down to the fact that the demonstrators believe the conditions of the lease allow them free access to the site, whether in vehicles or on foot.

This runs counter to the actions of Roxby Management services, which runs the Olympic dam copper-uranium project and which up to now had agreed to let the demonstrators come in only by foot.

The demonstrators said in their message to Mr Bannon that unless he supplied answers to their questions by 11 am, they would test the legality by entering the lease area en masse to continue their "peaceful" protest.

CSO: 100/7502

URANIUM MINING AT KAKADU MEETS CONSERVATIONIST RESISTANCE

Melbourne THE AGE in English 30 Aug 83 p 10

[Text]

CANBERRA. — While Roxby Downs grabs the limelight, another big conservationist-versus-miner clash, with Aboriginal and World Heritage connotations, is looming in the Northern Territory.

The impending struggle is over the proposed stage 2 of the Kakadu National Park. Environmentalists want the huge wetlands area declared a national park and nominated for World Heritage listing (as stage 1 has been); uranium mining companies have widespread exploration leases over the area, and 7 per cent of the area is designated Aboriginal land, although the title deeds have not been completed.

Environmentalists are putting pressure on the Federal Government to implement quickly its stated policy of declaring stage 2 as a national park, with no new exclusions for mining, and nominating it for World Heritage listing.

The Ranger uranium environmental inquiry report of 1977 recommended that a national park in the area include at least one large

total river catchment, and nominated the South Alligator catchment as the most suitable.

The Fox report also recommended the adoption of the proposal by the Northern Land Council that all Aboriginal land in the region west of the Arnhem Land Aboriginal Reserve be incorporated in a national park, except the mining area at Jabiru (Ranger) if mining was allowed to proceed there.

That recommended region includes the proposed stage 2 of the Kakadu National Park, an area so significant that in 1981, when it included stage one of the park on the heritage list, the World Heritage Committee, noted that "the Australian Government intended to proclaim additional areas in the Alligator River region as part of Kakadu National Park".

It recommended that such areas be included in the site inscribed on the World Heritage list and that in the region the environmental protection measures specified in the relevant legislation continue to be enforced".

In August, the Australian Conservation Foundation wrote to the

Minister for Home Affairs and Environment, Mr Cohen, expressing concern that the Government may be considering declaring a conservation zone instead of the proposed national park over the Kakadu stage 2 area.

The foundation pointed out that Mr Cohen had told the National Conservation Strategy conference in June that he was surprised the Government had been asked to allow mining companies to explore stage 2 fully.

He has also said no other course was possible but to "move towards" the declaration of the Kakadu National Park.

It is the "move towards" phrasing that environmentalists are worried about. A departmental submission is believed to have recommended and detailed as an option the establishment of the area as a "conservation zone". Under such a plan, "those areas not required for mining" could, after exploration, become a national park. The ALP policy is for no mining exclusions.

As the likely mining sites — uranium-bearing geological formations — are in the middle of the proposed stage 2, any exclusions would lead to a "Swiss cheese" effect. These likely ore-based rock areas are also amidst the all-important wetlands.

CSO: 5100/7502

SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM REJECTS NUCLEAR-FREE PROPOSAL

Melbourne TEL AGE In English 31 Aug 83 p 3

[Article by Ian Davis]

[Text]

CANBERRA. — The South Pacific Forum yesterday rejected Australia's proposal to declare a nuclear-free zone because it would have permitted nuclear-powered and armed vessels to cruise the Pacific.

The decision is a serious rebuff to Australian Government efforts to get a nuclear-free Pacific declaration from its Neighbors. Acceptance of Australia's proposal would have achieved a regional pact against French nuclear testing in the Pacific and against Japanese proposals to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific.

The decision is also a serious setback to the Labor Government's desire to win international recognition for its efforts in the field of nuclear disarmament.

In the other important decisions of the forum, which ended yesterday

- Australia won support for a call that France set a timetable for New Caledonian independence.

- The New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr Muldoon, strongly attacked Australia for refusing to continue to finance the Forum Shipping Line, saying that Australian bureaucrats had succeeded in their attempt to destroy it.

- The forum refused to tell Australia whether it should accept the French Government's invitation to send a scientist to Mururoa

Atoll.

The strongest opposition to the Australian nuclear-free proposal came from Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. They are believed to have argued in the forum's closed sessions that it would be meaningless to declare a nuclear-free zone that permitted nuclear-powered and armed vessels.

The PNG Prime Minister, and forum spokesman, Mr Somare, said: "You do not make decisions at a forum like this when other countries have pacts that are signed, like Australia and New Zealand. They will be affected by the ANZUS pact, which America is part of.

"So what happens is that negotiations have to take place between those two countries and America. Questions like that have to be resolved before you can start talking about declaring a nuclear-free zone."

But the forum passed a resolution "commending the Australian initiative" and agreeing in principle to a nuclear-free zone. But the resolution said: "Several of the forum leaders expressed the need for more time to consider the implications of the proposal and to carry out consultations on it."

Mr Muldoon said his Government agreed with the nuclear-free scheme but that "it was more and more difficult today to reach a consensus".

All decisions by the South Pacific Forum are made by consensus.

It appears the lack of consensus on this issue was considerable.

The Australian Foreign Minister, Mr Hayden, said: "There is no doubt there is a view that to allow nuclear-powered and armed ships would be inconsistent (with declaration of a nuclear-free zone). "We argue that it is consistent with our treaty obligations."

The forum agreed to a proposal on New Caledonian independence — a vital issue in the eyes of the forum's island members — which Mr Hayden said was formulated by Australia from proposals by Vanuatu.

Vanuatu's Prime Minister, Father Lini, has been the Pacific's most outspoken supporter of New Caledonian independence.

The proposal asks France to set a date for independence and to invite a delegation of the forum's political leaders to New Caledonia "to observe developments".

Mr Muldoon said that Australia's refusal to continue to finance the Forum Shipping Line would cause it to collapse.

"It's not a question of whether I hold Australia responsible," he said. "If the Forum Line collapses that will be the end of one of the most important things the forum has done. The belief seems to be we have come to the end of the line."

He said there was a consensus among members that the line should continue "but consensus hasn't got any pocket money".

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

CALL FOR NUCLEAR SUMMIT--ADELAIDE: The United Nations Association of Australia has called for a world summit aimed at averting what it sees as the present course of nuclear confrontation. The federal conference of the association, in Adelaide called on the Federal Government to seek a summit involving the "medium Powers"--such as Australia, Canada and India. It said that such a meeting should seek common security and co-operation. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 30 Aug 83 p 19]

CSO: 5100/7502

BRIEFS

BRAZIL-ARGENTINA NUCLEAR COOPERATION--Brasilia--As of yesterday afternoon, a nuclear accord signed during President Joao Figueiredo's visit to Buenos Aires 3 years ago is in full effect after the Brazilian Foreign Ministry ratified it yesterday. Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro has indicated that this accord refutes the rumors that the two countries are engaged in producing atomic bombs to attack each other. In keeping with this accord, from now on the two countries will exchange technicians and scientists, information, equipment, and nuclear material; they will grant scholarships and set up joint working groups to take care of specific projects in fields of research and technological development. [Excerpt] [PY222250 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 21 Oct 83 p 20]

BRAZILIAN EQUIPMENT FOR ARGENTINA--Rio de Janeiro--Nuclebras [Brazilian Nuclear Corporations Inc] President Dario Gomes reported yesterday in Rio de Janeiro that this enterprise will hand over in November the nuclear reactor vessel to the Argentine Atucha II nuclear plant. This will allow Brazil to export more heavy equipment for nuclear plants, due to Brazil's experience and capability demonstrated in this field. The reactor vessel, which is ready at the Nuclebras Heavy Equipment, Inc [NUCLEP], represents the first export of Brazilian heavy nuclear equipment, which began to be manufactured in 1981, with the use of PRC technology. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Oct 83 p 24 PY]

CSO: 5100/2005

NEW ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP FORMED BY GUYANESE

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 29 Sep 83 p 12

[Text]

AN organisation concerned with the threat of nuclear war is being formed in Barbados.

Called *Ploegh Shares For Life*, it wants total elimination of nuclear weapons by the two super powers — the United States and the Soviet Union.

A leading member of the organisation said that if these powers got rid of their weapons, the smaller powers — China, France and Britain — would follow suit.

The man behind the formation of *Ploegh Shares For Life* is Guyanese-born Eddie DeSilva, who has been living in Barbados for the past 24 years. The 41-yr-old office machines and household appliances technician, lives in Cleapham, Christ Church.

What caused him to push the idea for an organisation to lend its voice to the question of disarmament by the super powers?

He said he became interested in the move when he and his Barbadian wife, Ann, were on holiday in Newfoundland, Canada, a few weeks ago. They had attended a Mothers' Day rally and listened to speeches from mothers, scientists, students, engineers and university lecturers outlining the cost and negative outcome of nuclear weapons.

Mr DeSilva said: "Too much money is spent on these weapons, when hundreds of millions of people all over the world do not have food to eat."

He added: "There is no doubt that if these weapons are put to use this whole planet would go

up in smoke. Research has shown that while those in the United States and the Soviet Union may die quickly, we in the south-east hemisphere, will take a longer time to die, probably from epidemics and disease over which there may be no medical control."

What response has Mr. DeSilva received so far in mobilising support for a voice for disarmament by the super powers?

"It has been very good," he said.

Among groups expressing great interest are the United Nations Association of Barbados, the National Organisation of Women (NOW), Amnesty International, the National Union of Public Workers (NUPW), the Barbados Union of Teachers (BUT), and prominent people in the community such as Senator John Wickham, Canon Selon Goodridge, who is a warden/counsellor at the Cave Hill Campus of the UWI, and Roman Catholic priest, Father Harcourt Blackett.

Mr. DeSilva said: "We are trying to attract as many Barbadians as possible because we should endeavour to see that our children grow up and are not blown up."

The second meeting of the organisation will be held today at 7.30 at the headquarters of the Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC), George Street, Belleville, St. Michael Parish for a rally to mobilise support for disarmament, and the use of bumper stickers on vehicles will be discussed.

A nuclear physicist is also expected to be brought in from the United States or Canada to outline the dangers of nuclear weapons.

CSO: 5100/7504

BRAZIL

SCIENTISTS CRITICIZE NUCLEAR PROGRAM OPERATION

PY181659 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] The Brazilian nuclear program "is a failure." This is the opinion of the scientific community. In fact, the program is almost at a standstill now since the government will take on the responsibility for the Sao Paulo plants (Peruibe 1 and 2). Nevertheless, Nuclebras [Brazilian Nuclear Corporation] President Dario Cane foresees for this year a budget of \$750 million (almost 585 billion cruzeiros).

Regardless of the high predicted cost, Angra 1 has not yet entered the production stage and, according to FCE [Furnas Electric Power Plants, Inc.] president Licio Seabra, who is responsible for the plant, the delay is causing a \$200 million loss. According to Seabra, the cost of Angra 1 amounts to approximately \$1.2 billion (the original project was estimated at \$313 million).

With the changes in the nuclear program timetable, 65 percent of the orders made to FCE enterprises are ready but withheld. They represent an additional cost of a little below 10 percent of the value of the equipment. Nuclebras predicts an investment of \$18.4 billion (approximately 14,352,000,000,000 cruzeiros) by the end of the Brazilian nuclear program.

Jose Goldemberg, chairman of the Sao Paulo state power enterprises, has stated that the investment made by the government in building nuclear plants "is absolutely irrational." This program was justified so that the country would not have to depend on petroleum, and "now we are depending on both petroleum and on nuclear power," he stated.

CSO: 5100/2004

BRAZIL

PRODUCTION OF 'YELLOW-CAKE' THREATENED BY LACK OF FUNDS

PY222232 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Oct 83 p 9

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro--Brazil might have to stop its production of yellow-cake (uranium concentrate) next year unless "approximately \$300,000" needed to import 7,000 tons of sulphur, a basic input for yellow-cake production, is disbursed. Nuclebras [Brazilian Nuclear Corporations, Inc.] has already guaranteed the supply of 4,000 tons of sulphur needed to keep up the production of yellow-cake in 1983 and up to March 1984.

This information was disclosed by Dario Gomes, president of Nuclebras who fears that the corporation will be unable to return the 130 tons and 700 tons of yellow-cake which Argentina and the FRC respectively have supplied, before the end of next year. He admitted, once again, that the Brazilian nuclear program could be reviewed "in keeping with the nation's new energy requirements," but reaffirmed that the government intends to carry out in full the accord signed with the FRC.

After the lecturing at the Navy War School yesterday, Dario Gomes refuted the criticisms of physicist Rogerio Cerqueira Leite. "Although the Angra I power-plant is not being operated by Nuclebras, we can say that it will not be sold as scrap iron as the scientist has affirmed. It is a new powerplant which must undergo a series of tests. This takes time, but the people do not want to wait," Gomes said.

CSO: 5100/2010

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

URANIUM RESERVES--In a lecture given at the trade association, John Albuquerque Forman, Nuclebras (Brazilian Nuclear Corporation) Mineral Resources Director, yesterday stated that current uranium reserves of 301,490 tons are sufficient to feed 48 PWR (Pressurized Water Reactor) reactors for 30 years. Considering the energy potential in the uranium atom, Brazilian uranium reserves are 35 times greater than those of petroleum, gas, shale, and coal combined. Forman said that the country can guarantee fuel supply to the eight nuclear plants foreseen in the Brazilian nuclear program. According to Forman, the value of the Brazilian reserves could be sufficient to pay for a good part of the investment in this program. [Text] [PY301319 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Oct 83 p 16]

CSO: 5100/2011

WISDOM OF RENOUNCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS QUESTIONED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Sep 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

IN the absence of a verbatim report on what the Prime Minister said in Athens on India's defence against nuclear attack it is difficult to conclude that Mrs Indira Gandhi has unilaterally and for all time renounced this country's right to acquire atomic arms. She reiterated that India does not have any nuclear weapon in her possession. The Prime Minister, it appears, cited IAEA in defence of India's nuclear implosion at Pokharan in 1974. What she said in Athens can lend itself to the interpretation that India would not have exploded the nuclear device in 1974 had the IAEA objected to it. "We are against nuclear weapons both for idealistic and practical reasons", she was reported as saying. She is supposed to have added that India would not produce such arms even if Pakistan had them.

The destructive potential of atomic weapons is not in doubt. Humanity is threatened by total destruction in a war in which nuclear weapons are used. Even peaceful uses of nuclear energy, at the present level of technology, are not entirely free of long-range harmful effects. The fission technology has not eliminated the hurtful consequences nuclear power plants can have on ecology. Disposal of wastes, which remain radioactive for years to come, is already a global problem. (A breakthrough in fusion technology may, however, enable mankind to eliminate these fears.) But none of these objections to atomic weapons or nuclear power generation has been strong enough to deter the proliferation of atomic weapons or to discourage other uses of nuclear energy in the main industrialised nations of the world. Countries like India are neither responsible for the existence of atomic weapons, nor for their proliferation.

Nobody will disagree with Mrs Gandhi that nuclear weapons are abhorrent. But India can ignore the existence of nuclear weapons in her own backyard and neighbourhood only at her peril. Before they can applaud her for stand she has taken in Athens, Indians would like to know what strategic defence against nuclear-armed adversaries of this country the Prime Minister has devised. Nearly 20 years ago China detonated its first atomic bomb. China now has a growing ICBM arsenal, a substantial part of which is targeted on India. For all these years our leaders have been talking about this menace without being able to offer the country a sense of security against this nuclear threat. Even Pakistan, which was way behind India in nuclear technology and know-how, has overtaken this country in this field. Pakistan threatens to become a nuclear-weapon State. The primary target of Pakistan's military might, whether conventional or nuclear, is obviously India. Forgetting the global balance among the major nuclear-weapon States, this country lives under the shadow of nuclear weapons of China and probably of Pakistan. Till now the Government has no strategic defence which can be regarded as an adequate deterrent to these threats. A small section of pacifists in a region which is heavily armed with nuclear weapons may endorse what Mrs Gandhi has said in Athens. We only hope that she has not unilaterally surrendered India's right to acquire nuclear weapons under all circumstances. The country will have to pay heavily in the long run if the Government succumbs to the claptrap of unilateral renunciation of the nuclear option.

CSO: 5100/7005

INDIA WORKING TO HOLD SEAT ON IAEA GOVERNORS BOARD

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Oct 83 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI Sept 30

One of the difficult tasks facing the new Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr Raja Ramanna, is how to mobilise enough political support within the 111 member International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to ensure that India will continue to retain its permanent place on the Board of Governors after China's admission to this Vienna-based world body at its next annual conference.

The IAEA Board of Governors, which is due to meet from October 6 to prepare for the annual conference starting 10 days later, is expected to recommend the acceptance of China's application for admission on the basis of the implicit understanding reached during the visit of the Director-General of the Agency, Dr Hans Blix, to Beijing in August.

But the concomitant issue on which the Board of Governors has to take a decision is whether China should be allotted permanent representation as one of the "designated" countries to fill the seat that fell vacant following Taiwan's expulsion or whether it should be accommodated within the fixed limit of 12 places reserved for what are known as globally advanced countries by withdrawing the privilege conferred on India since the IAEA's inception.

Subtle move against India: Though the Government of India has been putting up a stiff fight behind the scenes to retain its place in respect of how China is accommodated on the Board of Governors as a permanent member, it is now faced with a subtle move by some of the big powers to play China against India for extracting an assurance from both the countries that they would not transfer nuclear material or technology to other countries irrespective of their refusal to submit to discriminatory safeguards in the name of non-proliferation.

The IAEA's Director General is reported to have had some discussions on this issue in Beijing and obtained some sort of a promise in principle that China would give serious thought to it. If he is able to persuade China to pledge itself even as a voluntary constraint if it is not

prepared to make a formal commitment to the IAEA, that it would not transfer technology to third countries without full safeguards then the pressure will be stepped up on India to fall in line with this limited undertaking as a token of its support to the basic objectives of the treaty on non-proliferation.

It is well known that irrespective of the fact that it is not a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, India has scrupulously refrained from transfer of nuclear technology despite the substantial economic baits offered at one time or the other by countries like Libya, Iraq and Iran. But it is one thing to exercise this restraint as part of its own volition and another thing to do so as part of a commitment to an international organisation like the IAEA which has been applying double standards in ensuring the member countries to work together for non-proliferation.

New confusion: A new element of confusion has been introduced into India's nuclear policy by the Prime Minister's reported remarks at a press conference in Athens last week that, even if Pakistan acquired nuclear weapons, India would not go in for them. This is quite contrary to what Mrs. Gandhi has said in Parliament on previous occasions when she clearly hinted that India would have to take appropriate steps in such a situation.

The foreign embassies in Delhi, especially those of the big nuclear powers, have been trying to obtain an authorised text of the Prime Minister's observations on the eve of the IAEA's annual conference. If she had indeed said what she is purported to have stated in Athens on this sensitive issue, then it means that she has taken back the country to the position that Mr. Murarji Desai took during the Janata regime.

The 34 member IAEA Board of Governors consists of 12 globally advanced countries which are more or less treated as permanent members, 22 regionally advanced countries that are elected for two years with 11 retiring every year to make way for new ones to provide balanced representation to different regions and so-called special interest. The 12

permanent members are the U.S., Soviet Union, Britain, France, Canada, West Germany, India and Japan with Australia and Egypt elected on a regional basis along with Argentina and Brazil and Belgium and Italy as alternates.

The big powers decided to keep the number of "designated" countries limited to eight after Taiwan's expulsion. The question now is whether they would agree to increase the figure to nine following China's admission or adhere to the ceiling of eight to edge India out. The Indian argument is that if the majority of Governors is opposed to reverting to the earlier figure of nine, then the European representatives of four should be reduced to three to accommodate both India and China on the Board.

CSO: S100/7007

WRITER DISCUSSES EFFORTS TO RETAIN IAEA SEAT

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Oct 83 p 8

[Article by Inder Malhotra]

[Text] BY the time these lines appear in print, a crucial meeting of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will have started in Vienna. This gathering is expected to pave the way for the admission of China into the IAEA at the 111-member agency's annual conference scheduled to begin on Monday. The Chinese application for membership was received at the IAEA's labyrinthine headquarters at the Vienna International Centre exactly a month ago, following a visit to Beijing by the agency's director-general Dr. Hans Blix.

Since the birth of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949, this country has championed the cause of its admission to the U.N. and all other organisations affiliated to the world body. There was no change in this policy even during the India-China war in 1962 or its bitter aftermath. It is highly ironic therefore that China's entry into the IAEA is being used to do down India, of all countries, and that this shabby manoeuvre is being master-minded by those who had earlier managed to keep China out of the U.N. system for nearly a quarter of century.

What is now being attempted is to deprive India of its permanent seat on the IAEA's 34-member board of governors to enable China quietly to slide into it. That this country has held this seat ever since the agency's inception by virtue of its impressive achievements in peaceful uses of nuclear energy is apparently of no interest to the nuclear haves who dominate the IAEA. In fact, irked by India's refusal to submit to the iniquitous world nuclear order they have fashioned and successfully imposed on a great many nations, they seem determined to teach India a lesson.

Otherwise they can easily accommodate China as a permanent member of the IAEA's board of governors by reviving the seat which was abolished after Taiwan was expelled from the agency in 1972 following the People's Republic's entry into the U.N. It is noteworthy that Taiwan got the permanent seat not on the strength of the island's exertions in the nuclear field--these were to come later--but thanks to the then prevalent fiction that the Taipei-based Chiang regime was the "real" ruler of the Chinese mainland!

Issues Complicated

Nothing in international relations is ever simple. Nuclear issues are even more complicated. Is it any wonder therefore that nuclear diplomacy has become even more complex than international relations in other fields and the simple problem of giving China its due place in the IAEA has been turned into something of a vendetta against India?

Of the 34 members of the IAEA's board of governors, a round dozen including India, are "designated" or automatically re-elected by the annual conference every year. The remaining 22 are elected for two years on a rotational basis, with 11 of them resigning and being replaced each year. There is a further distinction between two categories of the 12 "designated" members.

In the first category there are eight countries, chosen "globally" on the basis of their nuclear "status". Seven of them are: the U.S., the Soviet Union, Britain, France, West Germany, Canada and India. The eighth seat is shared by Italy and Belgium during alternate years. The four designated members in the second category are chosen on regional basis. They are: Japan, Australia and Egypt, with Argentina and Brazil alternating for the Latin American seat.

The regional principle is followed also in the election of the remaining 22 but the criteria for what constitutes a region or how the different countries of a region are to be represented are so complicated and controversial that there has always been a great deal of wrangling over their interpretation.

This indeed has been made the pretext for the argument that the present precarious balance would collapse if the number of the "designated" countries in the global category is increased by one. From this follows the suggestion that both the Asian giants, China and India, need not be in the same category and that India should make way for China and itself seek entry into the board through the 22 elective seats.

The gratuitous affront implicit in the proposal to downgrade India apart, the obvious retort to the absurd suggestion is that if any region is to make a "sacrifice" it must be Western Europe which has hogged a disproportionately large share of the designated seats all these years.

India's Message Clear

It is no secret that in recent weeks, this country has made it clear to all concerned--most notably to the U.S., the Soviet Union and the IAEA secretariat--that it will not be eased out of its permanent seat on the IAEA's board of governors, and this message is currently being hammered home to the participants in the Vienna meet. It is also likely, to put it mildly, that the anti-India move will not succeed. In any case, the moment of decision may not come until early next year because at this late stage in 1983 China may not want to pay a whole year's subscription to the IAEA and may therefore want its membership of the agency to become effective only from January 1, 1984.

But whatever their final outcome, the message of the recent contretemps is unmistakable. Those who are out to perpetuate the great divide between the nuclear haves and have-nots, and thus their own monopoly, will go almost any length to achieve their objective and to give short shrift to whoever they consider to be an obstacle in their path. India's or any other country's commitment to nuclear self-reliance, is to the nuclear haves what the red rag is to the bull. In a sense, the dismal drama now unfolding itself in Vienna is but the other side of the coin of harassment to which this country has been subjected over Tarapur for well over five years.

At the same time, it is only fair to recognise that the Indian government itself has not been particularly deft in handling the growing, and often, grim challenges of nuclear diplomacy, especially over the vexed Tarapur issue. In fact, sometimes it has been rather daft.

During the Janata regime, Mr. Morarji Desai allowed himself to be inveigled into accepting, temporarily at least, the hare-brained scheme for an international panel of scientists on full-scope safeguards. Mrs. Gandhi's government, for its part, bade farewell to the idea of running Tarapur on the basis of the indigenously developed mixed oxide fuel (MOX) and entered into an agreement with the Reagan administration that enabled the U.S. to pass on to France its responsibility to keep Tarapur supplied with enriched uranium.

The agreement nearly came unstuck even before the ink on it was dry because the reality turned out to be quite different from what Indian negotiators in their euphoria or naivete had believed it to be.

Mess Over Spare Parts

Mercifully the deal for the supply of French fuel for Tarapur was eventually salvaged but obviously the necessary lessons were not learnt even from this snafu. There can be no other explanation for the mess that has since been made about the spare parts urgently needed for Tarapur, some for health and safety reasons.

Once again the Indian negotiators went overboard during the U.S. secretary of state, Mr. George Shultz's visit to New Delhi. The loopholes and pitfalls in his offer--that India could buy whatever parts were available from West Germany and Italy and in respect of the rest, the U.S. President would take "appropriate action"--were sticking out like a sore thumb. But these were ignored.

No wonder, there is no sign of the desperately needed spare parts while all kinds of efforts are being made to use the spare parts issue as the proverbial thin end of the wedge to put Tarapur under safeguards in perpetuity.

The choice before this country is crystal clear. It can either shut down the Tarapur plant or forge the necessary components locally irrespective of costs which are bound to be horrendous. But it is doubtful if anyone in New Delhi has the time or inclination to cut the Gordian knot.

Meanwhile, China's impending entry into the IAEA raises some intriguing questions for both that country and those who are welcoming it with open arms. Even Beijing's best friends believe that it is clandestinely helping Pakistan to build the Islamic bomb. Will China's membership of the IAEA be enough to put an end to this, any more than it will persuade Mr. Deng Xiaoping to sign on the dotted line on the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT)?

In relation to Taiwan's nuclear activities and aspirations, China's position is bound to be even more piquant. Taiwan has four functioning civilian nuclear reactors and an undoubted capacity to make the bomb. When, after its expulsion from the IAEA, the agency's safeguards on the Taiwanese reactors ceased, the U.S. concluded bilateral arrangements for the inspection of these reactors. Since China regards Taiwan as an integral part of the People's Republic will it object to the present inspection arrangements and seek their termination even at the risk of a nuclear Taiwan that can then use the bomb to perpetuate its separate entity? Or will it continue to acquiesce in the present arrangements and thus compromise the sovereignty it claims over Taiwan?

CSO: 5100/7008

BRIEFS

URANIUM IN UTTAR PRADESH--URANIUM HAUL--Deposits of uranium have been found by the Geological Survey of India in the Sonrai area of Lalitpur district in Uttar Pradesh, it is authoritatively learnt. Work is in progress for determining the extent of uranium in the area. The Geological Survey has also been able to trace deposits of copper in the areas of Lalitpur district bordering Madhya Pradesh. Deposits of rock phosphate have been found in the Sonrai region of Bundelkhand. [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Sep 83 p 9]

RAMANNA USSR VISIT--NEW DELHI, Sept. 23--The chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission Mr Raja Ramanna, will soon visit the Soviet Union to discuss a Soviet proposal for setting up nuclear plants in India. Stating this, the Soviet Minister for Power, Engineering and Electrification, Mr P. S. Neporozhny, told reporters here today that Mr Ramanna was expected to visit Moscow in October or November. The Soviet Union had offered to help India set up two light water nuclear power plants of 440 MW each. He claimed that such light water nuclear plants were operating very well in his country and other Socialist countries. Replying to a question, the Soviet Minister said scientists were working on a 5 MW pilot project which would be later developed into a 200 MW power plant based on solar energy. He stressed on broad international co-operation and mutual aid for successfully solving the energy problems in different countries. Indo-Soviet cooperation in various fields offers a good example in this respect, he pointed out. [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 24 Sep 83 p 11]

CUBAN AEC VISITORS--MADRAS, Sept. 28--A seven-member delegation of the Atomic Energy Commission of Cuba, headed by its Executive Secretary, Mr. Fidel Castro Diaz Balart, son of President Fidel Castro, arrived here on Wednesday from Delhi. The team visited the Madras Atomic Power Project (MAPP) at Kalpakkam and then went to Mahabalipuram. The delegation is scheduled to leave for Bombay on Thursday morning. [Madras THE HINDU in English 28 Sep 83 p 12]

CSO: 5100/7006

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION OFFERS COOPERATION TO INDUSTRY

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] ISLAMABAD, Oct. 1: The Chairman, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, Munir Ahmed Khan has offered all kind of co-operation to the domestic industry to improve the quality of products, with a view of making the country achieve self reliance in the field of technology.

He was inaugurating a one-month training programme for the establishment of quality assurance system in the industries, organised by the scientific and engineering services kirektorate of PAEC, here today.

Munir Ahmed Khan laid special emphasis on the quality control assurance, and called upon the public as well as private sectors to work hand in hand in this vital area of industrialization. Without having a high quality industrial infra-structure in Pakistan, we cannot achieve self-sufficiency in the field of technology, he said.

"If our industry can supply PAEC with some nuclear components it can also make high quality products for all range. This will help us buy from the local industry and local industry can be able to learn so much in manufacturing, quality of control, cost reduction and training of manpower. This way we will be able to reduce import of machinery and finished goods and make our country self sufficient 'Munir Ahmed told the participants drawn from both public and private sectors. He added: "I want to see this alliance between the industries of Pakistan and the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission'.

The PAEC Chairman said we could cutset the potential loss from the export of loss by improving our industries. PAEC, he said, is very keen and anxious to work with the domestic industry.

Munir Ahmed stressed the need to equip the labour with skills and the methods of improving the quality. If this is done then there is no reason why we cannot compete in the world market. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that our exports of 20 million dollars of industrial goods can jump to atleast one billion dollars at the end of Sixth Plan period. Our objective should be to reach a target of atleast earning as much as through industrial exports as we earn through manpower, the PAEC Chairman said.

The PAEC Chairman pointed out that the domestic industry is not conscious of quality controls. The only demand made by them is to ban the import of items so that they can create monopoly and exploit the market. He said this tendency should have to be removed and the domestic industry should learn how to produce quality products, not only for sale within the country but also to compete in the world market. This should be the goal of the industries of a small country like Pakistan, he advised.

South Korea he said is an excellent example that how a small country is now competing with Japan. He said Korea is now so advanced technologically that by 1990 plans to make power plants of its own.

The PAEC Chairman said that the expenditure on research and development in Pakistan was very low and needed to be increased. He estimated that the total expenditure on research and development and quality assurances in Japan was almost equal to the Gross National Product (GNP) in Pakistan which was 25 million dollars.

Munir Ahmed said 'Pakistan should not only rely on the agricultural performance. It should by all means develop the industrial sector and try to find equal substitutions, reduce reliance on the industrialised world for its day to day development programmes to increase the productivity. The developed countries through the bio-technology will under-sell the entire Third World. cautioned and alarmed that this was a great danger, they will out-pace us not only in industry but also in agriculture. "If we do not industrialise our country now we will just be wiped out", he added. Chairman Munir Ahmed said that the course stated by PAEC was a unique in the history of Pakistan and if we were able to produce a dozen of quality control managers by the end of the year, we will have taken a big step.

S.M.N. Zaid, Member PAEC highlighted the importance of the training programme. He said the aim of the programme was to develop quality assurances managers for industry. PAEC motivated by the importance of quality controls in the industrial sectors, started the training, programme in some of the selected industries of Pakistan. The aim was to train atleast 30 quality assurance managers in Pakistan over a period of two years beginning with a batch of ten, from today (October one). Training programme co-ordinator, Bashiruddin Mehmud also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the details of the programme.--PPI

CSO: 5100/4700

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN HAILS CHINA'S ENTRY INTO IAEA

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Oct 83 p 20

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct 13: Describing China's entry into the International Atomic Energy Agency as a "historic event", Pakistan said it has made the IAEA truly universal.

"The active participation of China in the work of the Agency will no doubt have a positive and far-reaching influence in promoting the peaceful applications of atomic energy", said Dr Munir Ahmad Khan, Chairman, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, while addressing the IAEA's 27th General Conference at Vienna on Tuesday.

China became the 112th member of the Agency on Oct 11.

The Chairman reiterated his firm belief that nuclear power has reached the stage of technical maturity and economic viability to make vital contributions in meeting the electric power needs of many energy-deficient and highly populated developing countries.

He said that in certain countries the share of nuclear electricity may reach 50 per cent of the total energy output in the near future. However, he regretted the world was still not able to reap the benefits of wider applications of nuclear energy.

Dr Munir said one major reason for this paradox was the over-regulation of nuclear power both domestically and internationally. Domestically, in a number of countries, regulatory agencies were overly sensitive to the alarmist and unrealistic scenarios developed by certain groups.

Internationally, he said, there was a parallel tendency to impose increasing and arbitrary instructions on the export of nuclear

power plants. He referred to a recent study made by leading experts in nuclear technology and nuclear international relations, commissioned by the American Nuclear Society. The study concluded that nuclear power plants under safeguards have little or marginal implications for nuclear proliferation and the notion that the spread of civilian nuclear power would lead to proliferation of nuclear weapons is not only unjustified, but misleading.

Strongly supporting safeguard activities, the Chairman said, it is hard to understand that safeguard activities were outpacing the Technical Assistance Programme of the IAEA. He said the share of the safeguards allocations has increased from 10 per cent of the IAEA budget in 1970 to 30 per cent in 1983 and 1984 while allocations to technical assistance has remained static at around 20 per cent during the same period. He appreciated the donor countries for providing funds for Technical Assistance Programme and asked for an equal treatment of safeguards and technical assistance in respect of funds allocations.

Referring to the resolution adopted at the 22nd IAEA General Conference, Dr Munir said that Middle East and South Asia regions were grossly under-represented and the compromise formula, supported by a majority of the member States, of the modest increase of one seat each for these regions should be implemented. The efficiency and effectiveness of the IAEA Board of Governors will be further improved by this measure.

as these countries were playing an increasingly positive role in the activities of the Agency, Dr Munir said.

Dr Munir said it is our belief that Agency's safeguard system was technically sound and adequate. However, he said, the real strength of agency safeguards does not lie in the technical measures alone but in the universal acceptance of the system. He said it is a disturbing tendency on the part of certain developed countries to introduce arbitrary changes in the Agency's safeguards system. We are opposed to any such unilateral alterations in this system which fully responds to the Agency statute, he added.

He appreciated the idea of holding an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations on the promotion of international cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This conference should be organised very soon because a delay in holding of this conference will prevent not only exchange of very important information and experience but also the

conduct of a constructive dialogue which could pave the way for a wider use of peaceful application of nuclear energy and overcoming successfully the problems faced in Committee on Assurances of Supply, he added.

The Chairman expressed his strong condemnation of pre-meditated, unwarranted and totally unjustified Israeli attack on Iraqi reactor which was in complete violation of accepted international principles inconsistent with the statute of the Agency and Charter of the United Nations. This irresponsible attack had done an irreparable damage to the cause of application of nuclear energy for peaceful purpose.

He underlined the vital need to take strong measures to ensure that there is no possibility of repeating such acts in future. In this regard, he welcomed the proposal for adopting an international convention which would forbid and prevent such irresponsible attacks in future, Dr Munir said.—APP

CSO: 5100/4700

PEACE-TIME APPLICATION OF NUCLEAR POWER EXPLAINED

Johannesburg MINING WEEK in English 28 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Dries Sonnekus]

[Text] **NOBODY** will dispute the fact that the world in which we live today continuously demands more and more energy from the available sources.

At the same time nobody will dispute that the world's energy resources are in danger of being depleted.

This can plunge the world in an energy crisis of unknown proportions.

In view of this, the application of the advantages of nuclear energy is accepted worldwide as an essential alternative for the energy needs of the human race.

Nuclear scientists as a group can be regarded as people with an acute awareness of the potential dangers that their

profession entails for the world and its peoples.

For this reason the nuclear industry is subjected to the most stringent control and safety measures on an international basis.

In South Africa the nuclear industry entered a new era on July 1 1982 when the Atomic Energy Corporation of South Africa was established as a state corporation in terms of the provisions of the Nuclear Energy Act of 1982.

All nuclear activities in the country are subjected to control by the AEC.

At the same time the Nuclear Development Corporation of South Africa (Nucor), previously the Atomic Energy Board, and the Uranium Enrichment Corporation of South Africa (Ucor), were

re-established as full subsidiary companies of the AEC.

It was announced recently that a new centre for nuclear research is to be developed on the southern Cape coast.

All aspects of the nuclear industry in South Africa are subjected to the provisions of the Nuclear Energy Act, which was passed by Parliament last year.

The act provides inter alia that the licensing of all nuclear installation has to be approved by a Council for Nuclear Safety, which has direct responsibility to the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs.

The licensing branch of the AEC administers nuclear licences and is responsible for supervision of nuclear installations to ensure that they comply with safety requirements.

The Nuclear Energy Act lays down stringent application procedures for the use of nuclear energy to ensure the safety of the public.

The International Commission for Radiological Protection has been in existence since 1928 and propose safe radiation levels to which the AEC adheres strictly regarding nuclear installations in South Africa.

The Koeberg power station near Cape Town — where Escom will apply nuclear energy for the first time to generate electricity — is an excellent example of an installation where the provisions of the act and the radiation levels of the ICRP are stringently applied.

CSO: 5100/7

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

KOEBERG EXPLOSION—Cape Town.—A blast ripped through the Koeberg nuclear plant last Friday. But an Escom spokesman said yesterday the incident had been "an ordinary industrial accident" and there was "absolutely no question of sabotage". Koeberg information officer Mr Andre van Heerden said yesterday the blast occurred about 2pm in a workshop. "It was a minor blast, certainly nothing big," he said. "There was absolutely no question at all of a bomb, or of sabotage." The blast was thought originally to have been linked to an upgrading of security arrangements at the plant, which closed parts of it for more than a week. All staff at the plant were sent home last Friday. Some returned to work yesterday and the others are due back tomorrow morning. However, Mr Van Heerden denied the blast was connected with the security adjustments and said: "A workman testing a gauge used a cylinder of oxygen instead of nitrogen, and when the oxygen came into contact with oil in the gauge, it exploded, cutting his face but not seriously injuring him." It was learnt on Monday employees were warned last Friday morning there had been a bomb scare. A search was carried out as a security measure but no bomb was found. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 7 Oct 83 p 5]

CSO: 5100/7

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

RISING COSTS OF RECYCLING OF FUEL RODS

Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 23 Sep 83 p 31

[Article by Hans Christoph von Rohr, economic-political spokesman for the CDU in Hamburg and member of the Federal Board of the CDU Economic Council: "Caution: Trap--"]

[Text] We deal here with one of the most courted projects of German industrial history: the planned reprocessing plant for nuclear fuels. A billion-dollar scheme, it is supposed to relieve waste management in German nuclear plants, create workplaces and provide a quantum jump in technological progress. Bavaria and Lower Saxony are engaged in a breath-taking competition for this installation, which Franz Josef Strauss would like to set up in Wackersdorf in the Upper Palatinate and which his colleague from Lower Saxony would like to install in Dragahn in the Luechow-Dannenberg district.

Such courting had not always been experienced by the German Association for the Reprocessing of Nuclear Fuels (DWK), the future operator of the plant. Albrecht had declared in 1979 that the concept of a reprocessing plant in Gorleben in this century was "politically not achievable." During the following years the obligation to find a location, also from an energy policy standpoint, for the reprocessing plant became a buck-passing affair between the states of Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate and Bavaria.

Now everything is moving like clockwork: 1981 final proposals for a location, 1982 approval of requests by the DWK, 1983 completion of the planning process. This year will still see a public review of the safety report, and by the end of 1984, or at the latest in the beginning of 1985, approval of the first partial installation. No serious opposition is now expected from local political groups. Even environmentalists and anti-atomic-death demonstrators have become silent--many of them may during the "hot autumn" look for other targets for their anger.

And yet, the German reprocessing plant is beset with doubts--the cost factors. Reprocessing promises to become a financial adventure of immense scope--especially for the electrical industry, which has to foot the bill for everything.

Since the publication of the original concept for a waste management center in Gorleben with a reprocessing plant with an annual capacity of 1,400 tons, primarily two factors have determined costs:

- the reduction in size of the plant to only a 350-ton annual capacity, i.e., to a fourth of the originally planned capacity and
- the explosive increase in costs for the continuously improved safety technology measures.

Added to this must be the much criticized extravagant business conduct of the DWK. These costs must also be borne by the electrical industry, to its great dismay.

A result of all this is the expectation of the hopeless inferiority of the German reprocessing plant vis-a-vis its French and British competitors. In their plants spent fuel rods of German electric power plants are processed for about DM 1,900 per kilogram--German processing is estimated, at today's prices, to cost between DM 4,000 and 5,000 (excluding final storage). This corresponds for a standard 1,300-megawatt light-water reactor, which yields about 34 tons of spent fuel elements annually, to an annual cost of an additional DM 70 to 100 million per year. These figures are, however, only valid if the planned reprocessing volume of 350 year-tons is achieved. Converted to electric current cost, this yields a reprocessing burden of somewhat greater rather than less than 2 pfennigs per kilowatt-hour.

The German electrical industry thus will have to pay additional costs of almost DM 1 billion annually as a price for reprocessing in the Federal Republic, a price which can still multiply until the startup of operations in 1992. Experiences with the fast breeder, whose costs increased sixfold since original concept formulation, and with the high temperature reactor, whose cost rose sevenfold, are a warning to be cautious.

It is certain that we deal here with amounts in the billions, which raises the question of whether the German electrical industry really can afford the luxury of its own reprocessing plant. Its financial resources hardly can simultaneously support the three superprojects--fast breeder, high-temperature reactor and reprocessing plant--without recourse to support from the federal budget or from consumers, neither of which can be expected. Thus the question of priorities must be raised and that ballast which can best be sacrificed must be thrown overboard.

In this way the electrical industry will create the financial freedom which is required to develop both nuclear energy, which is needed under any circumstances, and the rather expensive desulfurization technology for coal-powered power stations. Desulfurization burdens the current electrical cost with about DPf 2.5 per kilowatt-hour, which is probably even greater than the reprocessing cost, which however is ecologically indispensable compared to reprocessing.

The waste management report to the Federal Government, which recently was submitted to the Bundestag, clearly demonstrates that even without such an installation there would be no waste management slowdown:

First: Waste management contracts with reprocessing plants in France (COGEMA) and England (BNFL) will for some time--at relatively favorable prices--insure the reprocessing of our spent fuel elements. In France construction of an additional reprocessing plant is pushed hard with a considerable portion of the funds furnished by Germany. Because the newly completed plant is of larger dimensions than the planned German plant, and because the French can utilize their many years of practical experience, the plant will operate less expensively than it ever could be expected in Germany. As of now England and France are planning to process 3,560 tons of German fuel rods.

Second: The idea of direct final storage of spent fuel rods in the salt dome of Gorleben (without reprocessing) is gaining more and more supporters. It would have the disadvantage of a greater final storage volume, but it avoids the energetically not insignificant manipulation of highly radioactive material, which would occur in a reprocessing plant.

Indeed, when fuel rods are stored directly, only a fraction of their energy is utilized; in a closed fuel circuit with reprocessing, energy losses and the need for natural uranium are smaller. Yet these uranium savings cost the operator a multiple of the world market price of natural uranium. On the basis of such a calculation the production of leaner uranium, which today is neglected, becomes a matter of interest; this will considerably increase these fuel reserves.

Third: An increasingly important waste management buffer is formed by the instrument of intermediate storage of spent fuel elements in the nuclear plants and in external intermediate storage locations. Safety technology for this purpose has been perfected to such an extent that no ecological complaints can be raised in connection with reprocessing against long-term, intermediate storage, even for tens of years. After 1 year fuel elements lose 98 percent of their radioactivity. Intermediate storage capacity today already measures 6,171 tons. An additional 2,148 tons are being applied for.

Altogether, including the contracts with France and England, the practically assured total waste management capacity is 11,000 tons, which if necessary can be extended through intermediate storage. In comparison if by the year 2000 nuclear energy is expanded to 30,000 megawatts, as is planned by the Federal Government, a maximum of 10,900 tons of spent fuel rods will be produced.

Intermediate storage thus provides valuable economies until such time as waste management technology has been radically improved. This is preferable to a possible premature installation of the German reprocessing plant.

Some people, however, feel that the psychological effect of abandoning the project will provide support to critics of nuclear power plants. They might argue that the "atomic state" had retreated, that the electrical power industry and, under the pressure of arguments against the "atomic state," surrendered a decisive bastion. The rest--fast breeder and light water reactor--would then follow soon. Exactly the opposite should be assumed: the open readiness to correct a decision which had been overtaken by

developments would increase the credibility of the energy industry and would in the final instance enhance the acceptance of nuclear energy. Under the assumption that the Federal Government and the states will modify their waste management principles of 29 February 1980, especially the specified restrictive time constraints, it should also be possible to improve the "legalistic stability" of nuclear authorizations.

1994

CDR: 3106/2504

TACTICS USED IN PRO-NUCLEAR POWER CAMPAIGN CAUSE OUTCRY

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 23 Sep 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Nuclear Power Companies on the Run"]

[Text] The nuclear power campaign started by IVO [Imatran Voima], together with other industries has become exaggerated. As a consequence the preliminary work is beginning to turn against itself. The activity that is taking the form of pressure is awakening doubts in regard to the usefulness of its goals. Are the power companies working in the best interest of the public or are they only trying to secure the extent and growth of their own activities?

Minister of Trade and Industry Seppo Lindblom has with good reason criticized the actions taken by IVO and other industries. Although negative opinions in regard to nuclear power are to a large extent emotional, for example, the task of IVO is not to answer to a challenge with methods that appear as pressure. Such action only confuses the discussion concerning nuclear power which is already difficult to grasp.

A nationally owned company can and actually has to present its opinion in matters that concern the company. But a nationally owned company must not take to marketing tricks supported by other industry when it is offering a proposed solution to the Parliament that is best suited for its own purposes.

The industry demands a nuclear power plant decision within a year. Such a wish is also in agreement with the plans of IVO's planning organization. The construction of the power plant will take about ten years and it is estimated that an increased amount of power is needed immediately in the beginning of the 1990's.

Minister Lindblom throws ice into the mill also in this respect by stating that according to the current views on the economy increased amounts of power will not be needed until perhaps toward the end of the 1990's. He supports his estimate with the fact that the current capacity is excessive.

The view of the economic development does not engender very strong optimism. Therefore there is no reason to rush. Thus there is enough time for the Parliament to study in detail all the alternatives in the nuclear power matter.

The elimination of the rush leads on the other hand to the clarification of the dispute regarding IVO's tariff policies. According to the research request directed to the Food Ministry it is suspected that the company has gathered too many nuclear power subsidies with its prices.

IVO naturally has to protect the financing of its future investments according to regular business principles. The pressure on the tariffs also depends on when the investing will actually begin. If the construction of the next power plant will be postponed which would conflict with IVO's own plans, there is also reason to slow down building capital for the investment.

9662

CSO: 5100/2503

PARTIES PREPARE FOR PARLIAMENTARY FIGHT OVER NUCLEAR POLICY

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 28 Sep 83 p 9

[Article: "Parliament Must Get Real Authority Over Nuclear Power: Parties Ready for Decisions Plant by Plant"]

[Text] The parties want to decide about the nuclear power plants one case at a time although they agree that the decision making according to such a plan is not clear cut. The role of the Parliament's decision in establishing new nuclear plants is one of the difficult factors that complicate the preparation of a nuclear power law.

The parties want to rush the nuclear power law to the Parliament. According to them the law should be approved first before there is time to make decisions about individual nuclear power plants.

According to Minister of Trade and Industry Seppo Lindblom (Social Democrat) there is no rush to make a decision about the founding of new power plants, whereas it is important to get the new nuclear power law into the Parliament. But if there would be a rush in regard to the decision making about nuclear power plants the government bill that has come to the Parliament would not have to be finished. In making the decisions one can act in agreement with each individual project, said Lindblom at the energy seminar for political editors on Tuesday.

Lindblom considered the stage at which the Parliament gets to make the decision a cause for trouble. Lindblom also generally found it troublesome that the decision making in energy issues in Finland is very parliamentarian. The parliamentarianism makes the planning difficult while one has to wonder at the same time about the fact that the results of such decision making are as good as they are, Lindblom reflected.

Lindblom also pondered about the possibility that there would be a separate board for industrial policies in the Parliament. This would, according to Lindblom, be one solution to the fact that matters concerning industry are not handled as simply money matters in the Finance Ministry.

A Principle or a Decision About Power Plants

The parties do not yet have any decisions about the new power law or the stage of the decision of the Parliament. According to MP Kaj Barlund (Social Democrat) alternatives have been presented according to which the government would make the nuclear plant decisions as is currently done. There has been talk about the Parliament's possibilities mainly on two levels: that the Parliament would make the principal decision whether or not nuclear power will be used and thereafter the cabinet would make the decisions project by project. According to the other alternative the Parliament itself would make the decision for each individual project. In the board for energy policies the Social Democratic Party has, according to Barlund, leaned toward decision making project by project.

MP Heikki Perho of the Coalition Party supported the proposal that the Parliament make decisions for each power plant presented to it.

According to Communist Party Secretary General Arvo Aalto the principal decision would be sufficient. If it is against nuclear power, it is no longer necessary to decide about each separate case.

According to party secretary of the Center Party, Seppo Kaariainen, the Center Party's standpoint is close to that of the Social Democrats in this matter.

According to Rolf Sormo of the Finnish Rural Party, decisions made project by project would give a chance to oppose all nuclear power plant acquisitions.

According to party secretary of the Swedish People's Party, Peter Stenlund, the Swedish People's Party is wondering whether the Cabinet's Principal decision, which would be subordinate to the Parliament, would be enough. The committee that had thought about the matter was of this opinion.

Alternatives, Calculations

The party representatives questioned to some extent the industry's estimates which showed that nuclear power would be clearly more economical than the other energy alternatives. The industries were also criticized because they have turned to talking about prices instead of the need.

The parties that were most clearly against nuclear power were the Rural Party and the Center Party. According to party secretary of the Center Party, Seppo Kaariainen, the Parliament will need other alternatives also for the decision making.

Barlund of the Social Democratic Party supported Lindblom in that there is no rush involved with the construction. Aalto of the Communist Party does not want any rush either.

According to Heikki Perho of the Coalition Party nuclear power is an alternative that should be considered and we are moving toward increased security for nuclear plants.

9662

CCO: 5100/2503

BRIEFS

NUCLEAR WASTE SCHEME IS SAFE--The Finnish Nuclear Plants Association rejects the Swedish information stating that the gases that form from nuclear waste in the final storage sites would explode and destroy or damage the sites so that radioactive waste would spread into the environment. The Swedish scientist Dr Daniel Simonsson has concluded in his study that the Forsmark nuclear waste storage that will be built on the Swedish side of the sea of Aland could break down within a couple of years. According to Simonsson gas will form in the waste storage site to fill the site and break it down. This might occur within as little as 6 years. The nuclear waste experts of the Nuclear Power Association say that studies have been made in regard to the formation of gas in the storage site and that the possibility is taken into account in the assigning the final placement. The studies and the estimates show that the gas that is formed does not, even in the most disadvantageous cases, break down the sites, says the Nuclear Plants Association. [Text] [Helsinki UUSI SUOMI in Finnish 21 Sep 83 p 7] 9662

INCREASED POWER FOR NUCLEAR PLANTS--Both units of the TVO [Industrial Power Olkiluoto] nuclear plant are being increased in output capacity from 660 to 710 megawatt. An output test that will last one week was started for this purpose on Tuesday at unit one. The unit will during this time be run with 106 percent output. The output was increased in two equally large steps and the planned 6 percent increase was achieved around midday. The unit has already since July been run at 103 percent output and the test is intended to last one year. Unit two is also undergoing a long term test and an increase of 6 percent will be reached by the end of October. If the test runs as planned, the output of unit one will be increased on a permanent basis by 8 percent to 710 megawatt by the summer of 1984. A year later the output of unit two will be increased. TVO states that the purpose of the increase is to lower the cost of electricity. The permit for this activity is granted by the Electricity Safety Institute. [Text] [Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 21 Sep 83 p 9] 9662

CSO: 5100/2503

GREECE

KEADEA ORGANIZES DENUCLEARIZATION CONGRESS IN ATHENS

Athens EXORMISI TIS KYRIAKIS in Greek 1-2 Oct 83 p 9

/Text/ An International Congress for the denuclearization of Europe will take place in Athens during the first 10 days of February at the initiative of the Movement for National Independence, International Peace and Disarmament (KEADEA).

During a press interview KEADEA President Khr. Markopoulos pointed out that this initiative is a follow up of Premier Papandreu's proposal for denuclearization of the Balkans and of Swedish Premier Olaf Palme's proposal for establishing a free nuclear zone in Northern Europe. He added:

"KEADEA, true to its principles, without any ideological and political bias, without any dependence on the super powers, free and unattached of foreign influences, is struggling, during these difficult times, to preserve the spirit of dialogue, to search for small paths which may lead to some sort of agreement; to chart a new road for the cause of peace." He said that the armaments race among the super powers has assumed immense dimensions in recent years while the anticipated new increase in nuclear weapons is creating an unprecedented explosive situation.

Invitations to this Congress will be extended to peace movements, with various orientations in Western and Eastern Europe, personalities of international political prestige, men of letters and sciences, et al. The main objective will be to create the proper forum where views can be freely expressed on the issue of preconditions as well as prospects for a denuclearized Europe.

"On our part," said the KEADEA president, "we shall exert every effort to avoid having the Congress used for any form of one-sided propaganda. Our efforts will be centered around a common comprehension of things, a result of positions and views which can gradually lead to constructive dialogue." The Congress will particularly discuss the following issues:

- a. The prerequisites which can lead to Europe's denuclearization.
- b. The necessary conditions and steps which must follow for achieving this goal.
- c. The impact in the European area from such denuclearization.

"We have no illusions," concluded Markopoulos. "We are aware of the difficulties which at the present time are indeed unsurpassed. We believe, however, that it is the moral duty of every thinking person to fight for peace, to struggle for the removal of the specter of destruction which hovers over humanity today."

7526
CSO: S100/2508

GREECE

URANIUM DEPOSITS IN DRAMA MOUNTAINS

Athens TA NEA in Greek 4 Oct 83 p 16

/Text/ Kavala 4 Oct, by our correspondent--Three new parallel uranium deposits have been discovered by IGME [Institute for Geological and Mineral Research] scientists in the mountainous "Arkhondovouni" Paranestion region of Drama.

The three uranium-bearing deposits are not to be confused with two others that had been discovered in the past, also in the mountainous area of Drama. The latter are confirmed discoveries.

From the first estimates made by IGME scientists it appears that the three deposits may contain some 1,000 tons of uranium overall.

The search will continue and new drillings are expected to be conducted at depths ranging from 50, 100 to 400 meters.

The research comes within the context of the 5-year plan and is under the exclusive control of IGME. All phases of the search are being conducted by Greek scientists exclusively.

5671
CSO: 5100/2516

GREECE

BRIEFS

FIRST BNFZ MEETING--Greece has proposed that the first Balkan Nuclear Free Zone /BNFZ/ meeting be held in Athens on 15 January 1984. Ten days ago Premier A. Papandreu sent letters to the presidents of Romania, Bulgaria and to the premiers of Yugoslavia and Turkey proposing that date for a meeting of experts. Following that meeting it is expected another one will be held on a political level (deputy ministers) for further discussion of the Greek proposal concerning the missile-free Balkans. Text Athens TA MEA in Greek 23 Sep 83 p 17 7520

CSO: 5100/2508

ASCO TOWN COUNSELORS ARRESTED, RELEASED IN NUCLEAR PROTEST

Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 13 Oct 83 p 20

[Text] Barcelona--Antoni Ribes, Joan Perez and Josep Jornet, three counselors of the Asco Municipal Council, were arrested early yesterday by the Civil Guard when they continued to confine themselves in the town hall, demanding that a municipal plenum be convoked on the nuclear power plant. The Civil Guard asserted that it had received orders from the civil governor. The three counselors, members of the antinuclear candidacy, were later released without charges. The arrest, which took place without the consent of the mayor, was rejected by the entire municipal council and the populace.

Tomas Biarnes, mayor of Asco, convoked an extraordinary municipal plenum for tomorrow, Thursday at 7 p.m. to debate the problems involving the nuclear power plant. This was in response to the petition of the antinuclear group Union for Municipal Progress **[UPM]**. Three of the four counselors of this group, minority members in the municipal council, were those who locked themselves in yesterday, demanding the convocation of the plenum, reports Xavier Bas.

As was stated by those who locked themselves in, they will not put aside their action until the session is called.

Almost 24 hours after the lock-in began, several members of the Civil Guard approached the Asco Municipal Council and, together with the mayor, sought to dissuade the occupants from their action. Faced with the failure of the negotiations and taking advantage of a momentary absence of the principal local authority, the forces of the Civil Guard, who claimed to have orders from the governor, ousted the three counselors and transferred them to the headquarters at Flix, where the corresponding testimony was taken. The counselors were later released and taken back to Asco. Throughout the morning, a large crowd of neighbors gathered in the neighborhood of the town hall, rebuking the Civil Guard and the mayor.

In an urgent plenary session convoked to deal exclusively with the development of events, the full council approved a document deplored the events that

occurred, considering "that there was neither public disorder nor any alteration." It regrets the action of the forces of public order who "did not respect the local authority," and it calls on the civil governor to leave the testimony without effect, believing that there is neither criminal cause nor a transgression of any kind.

The local neighbors' association has called for a gathering in front of the town hall next Sunday in support of the municipal opposition.

During the previous legislature, the Asco Municipal Council maintained a radical opposition to the nuclear power plant located within its municipal boundaries. In the May elections, however, the list of candidates headed by Joan Carranza, the previous mayor, received only four seats as opposed to the seven seats obtained by a list of independents. Shortly after the new municipal government was formed, the UPM counselors asked for the calling of an extraordinary plenum with the sole point of debate being the nuclear power plant. In this manner, they sought to force the group now in control of the municipal council, whose position is considered close to that of the electric companies, to define its position on the nuclear question.

Transport of Radioactive Material

In a related matter, a shipment of radioactive material, probably uranium and heavily guarded by civil guards, crossed the Free Zone of the Port of Barcelona and the southern part of Barcelona Tuesday night. The destination of the material, stored in two articulated trucks, was the nuclear power plant in Asco (Tarragona).

No official organization wanted to take responsibility yesterday for the content of the trucks and for whether or not the minimum security standards required in the transport of uranium had been met.

1733

3000: 5100/2506

'SOCIALIST YOUTH' TO LAUNCH ANTI NUCLEAR CAMPAIGN

Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 13 Oct 83 p 23

Text Madrid--The Socialist Youth will give instructions to all counselors who are members of the PSOE youth organization to present anti-nuclear motions in the municipal councils, and they will also address a petition along these lines to the mayor of Torrejon de Ardoz (Madrid), socialist Jose de Cruz.

The Socialist Youth "have received with profound dissatisfaction" the decision of Jose Maria Rodriguez Colorado, the civil governor of Madrid, to oppose the agreements of the municipal councils that declared their municipal territories to be nuclear-free zones, as well as with the refusal of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces to show solidarity with the affected municipal governments, according to a declaration by Jesus Vaca, secretary of Recovery Action of Socialist Youth (JJSS).

Jesus Vaca indicated that the Socialist Youth have recommended to all PSOE Spanish Socialist Workers Party counselors who belong to the youth organization, some 700 throughout Spain, to present antinuclear motions in their respective municipal councils.

In this respect, a new avalanche of proposals is expected between 23 and 29 October, the dates of a Week for Peace supported by various leftwing organizations.

Nevertheless, the executive committee of the JJSS will soon study the possibility of modifying the text of the motion, without affecting its contents, to avoid possible new legal problems with the civil governments.

In the same sense, socialist Arsenio Lopez, mayor of Alcala de Henares, one of the municipal councils whose agreement has been opposed, has declared that the municipal government over which he presides will study the modification of the text to bring it in line with the legal requirements of the civil government. The modification would consist in substituting the express declaration of nuclear-free zone with a petition to the national government with that meaning.

Alcala de Henares was the first municipal council that indicated in the approved motion that its opposition referred only to the use of nuclear energy for military purposes. The council thus avoided the problems resulting from transporting a rotor and an alternator through its municipal territory with the destination being the nuclear power plant at Trillo (Guadalajara).

De Cruz: "Secondary Problem"

In turn, socialist Jose de Cruz, mayor of Torrejon de Ardoz, declared yesterday that in his opinion, the antimuclear policy is not under municipal jurisdiction, and, "in any case, it is a secondary concern."

The mayor pointed out that in case another party--he was referring, without mentioning it, to the PCE--should present a motion on its own, the Socialists would abstain. De Cruz affirmed that he has not received any indication of a sort from the Socialist Youth, although he did say that perhaps there has been some contact between the organization and some member of the PSOE local committee.

Juan Francisco Pla, PCE secretary for municipal policy, has accused the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces of having fallen into officialism in regard to the municipal agreements on nuclear-free zones. Pla stated that in the recent meeting of that federation held last weekend in Barcelona, all of the proposals that interdicted the government's action were rejected.

9746

CSO: 5100/2506

TURKEY

FIRMS BID ON AKKUYU NUCLEAR PLANT CONSTRUCTION

Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish 13 Sep 83 p 3

[Text] Ankara (TURKISH NEWS AGENCY)--Seven firms have now offered bids, including provision for credit, for the first nuclear power plant which is to be built in Akkuyu in Mersin Province and will produce 1,000 megawatts of energy.

According to information obtained by a TURKISH NEWS AGENCY correspondent, the highest bid on the contract for the "nuclear and turbine package" for the Akkuyu Nuclear Plant, which is to be run by the TEK [Turkish Electric Power Enterprise], came from the Canadian firm AECL [expansion unknown] in the amount of \$1.8 billion. Of this amount, \$500 million would be used for training and the supply of spare parts. The type of reactor proposed by the Canadian firm is the "heavy water reactor," said to be the world's safest nuclear power plant, which would offer significant advantages in the long run as the raw materials used for fuel involve very little external dependency. For this reason, the Canadian firm is reportedly preferred from the technological standpoint. The firm's credit offer, meanwhile, is reportedly in excess of 85 percent of the required financing, and this credit would be supplied through South Korea and Britain.

General Electric (United States)

The U.S. firm General Electric reportedly proposed a 1,220 megawatt nuclear plant. The price of the nuclear plant offered by the firm is a total of \$1.7 billion. The firm promised delivery of the plant in 5 years and offered 85 percent of the financing as credit, according to information obtained. The firm proposed building a light water type reactor.

National Nuclear Corporation (Britain)

National Nuclear Corporation, a British firm, proposed a 2 x 300 megawatt plant of the infrequently selected, gas-run "magnoreactor" type. Total price of the plant proposed by the firm is \$800 million. The firm's credit offer was 80 percent for 15 years.

Kraftwerk Union (West Germany)

This firm, according to information obtained, proposed a 1,000 megawatt, pressurized water type reactor. This reactor is reportedly one of the two types which use enriched uranium to produce energy. The firm's price offer is \$1.7 billion with 85 percent credit.

Westinghouse (United States)

Westinghouse, the second U.S. firm tendering a bid, is closely involved in nuclear plant matters in Turkey. The firm's bid, tendered to the TEK on 19 August, is for a 1,000 megawatt "enriched uranium reactor." Its total price is \$1.6 billion with 85 percent financing.

ASEA ATOM (Swedish General Electric Corporation)

This Swedish firm, the strongest candidate to win the Akkuyu nuclear contract offered by Turkey in 1977, withdrew from the bidding as unable to supply credit, and the contract offer was later canceled. The new bid by the Swedish firm proposed an "enriched uranium reactor." The firm offered no concrete credit proposal, but its price offer for the plant is \$1.6 billion.

FRAMATOME (Franco-American Atomic Construction Company)

This firm reportedly proposed two types of reactors of 1,000 and 900 megawatts.

Subcommittee Endeavors

Meanwhile, it was learned that the seven firms' bids for the Akkuyu Nuclear Energy Plant are being studied in a joint Evaluation Committee consisting of officials from the State Planning Organization, the Ministries of Energy, Industry, Public Works and Finance and the Atomic Energy Commission, and will be forwarded towards the end of the month for review to the superior committee composed of Minister of State Nimet Ozdas, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Fahir Ilkel, Minister of Industry and Technology Mehmet Turgut, Minister of Public Works Tahsin Onalp and Finance Minister Adnan Baser Kafaoglu.

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